

Applicants respectfully submit that in this case, the Examiner has not shown that there would be a serious burden in examining the Groups set forth in the restriction requirement. In particular, Applicants note that it appears that the search for Groups III and VII would be co-extensive. It appears that a search covering the subject matter of Group III would cover the subject matter of Group VII as well since these two groups encompass overlapping subject matter; that is, a antagonist anti-EphB4 antibodies and methods of using same. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the inventions of Groups III and VII can be efficiently searched and examined together without placing a significant additional burden on the Examiner.

Based on these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement, at least with respect to Groups III and VII, be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

This response is accompanied by a request for a two month extension of time and appropriate fees. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. VASG-P01-002.

Dated: January 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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